




## JUST THE FACTS...


The Iowa Aftercare Services Network is a statewide initiative funded by the Iowa Department of Human Services to address the needs of young adults who have aged out of foster care.


12 Iowa human service agencies collaborate to form the Network so local agencies can deliver services to local youth in each of Iowa's 99 counties.

## IOWA AFTERCARE SERVICES NETWORK CAN HELP

If you are:

 **Currently living anywhere in Iowa.**

 **A former foster care recipient** who may have received services in a Family Foster Home, a Group Home or through a DHS Supported Independent Living arrangement.

 **At least 18 years old but not yet 21 years old and left foster care at age 17 1/2 or older.**

**1-800-443-8336**  
**FOR REFERRAL TO AN AGENCY NEAR YOU**

These 12 agencies provide support, services and links to additional program resources such as transitional living services, employment training, and counseling.

**American Home Finding Association**  
**Boys and Girls Home & Family Services**  
**Children's Square USA**  
**Children & Families of Iowa**  
**Family Resources**  
**Foundation 2**  
**Hour Oaks**  
**Francis Lauer Youth Services**  
**Quakerdale**  
**Young House Family Services**  
**Youth Homes of Mid America**  
**Youth & Shelter Services**

## ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS AND COMPONENTS

### Preparation for Adult Living (PAL)

Aftercare participants who left foster care after May 1, 2006, were at least age 18, and have a high school diploma or GED may be able to qualify for a monthly stipend to live in an approved living arrangement such as former foster parents, in an apartment or a college dorm.

To qualify for a PAL stipend, participants must either attend college, enroll in a work training program or have a job. Regular meetings with a Self-Sufficiency Advocate are also required.

### Subsidized Apartments

The Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) oversees a direct rent subsidy component of the Iowa Aftercare Services Network. This program is designed for aftercare participants who do not qualify for PAL. The IFA may be able to subsidize an apartment up to \$350/mo. Youth are responsible for paying the remainder of rent.

The goal is for IFA aftercare participants to have some type of income and be working towards self-sufficiency.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### Medicaid Coverage (Title 19)

Youth leaving foster care after turning 18 may be eligible to continue receiving a medical card each month until age 21. Be sure to let the Department of Human Services know every time your address changes. To qualify, you must continue to live in the state of Iowa. You may receive Medicaid even if you choose not to participate in Aftercare.

The Medicaid card may help pay the cost of medication, health care and substance abuse or mental health treatment. Iowa is one of only 17 states that provides Medicaid coverage for 18- to 21-year-old former foster care youth.

### College Financial Aid

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the first step in the financial aid process. Youth use it to apply for federal student financial aid, such as the Pell Grant. The FAFSA can be completed online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

The state of Iowa offers two grant programs to help with college expenses: the **Education & Training Voucher (ETV) Grant** and the **All Iowa Opportunity Foster Care Grant**. Grants are free money that do not need to be repaid and are available to students who meet the specific requirements of each grant program. For more information, please visit [www.iowacolleged.gov](http://www.iowacolleged.gov) and click on Scholarships and Grants or call 1-800-383-4222.

### Elevate™

Youth leaving foster care are eligible to participate in a self-help program known as Elevate. For more information, please visit the Web site [www.elevate2inspire.com](http://www.elevate2inspire.com)

